A Brief Notice of the Settlement of the Town of Newton
Boston: C.C.P. Moody, 1852
Newton Free Library
Newton Centre, MA

CONDITION ON RECEIPT: The multi-signature pamphlet was sewn into an acidic pamphlet binder. The text block was detached from the binder. The text block consisted of stab sewn printed pages. A large, acidic scrap with manuscript ink inscription was adhered to one page. Several surrounding leaves were stained as a result of acid migration. The ink had bled through in spots where the application was heavy. The top portion of the tile page had been cut. There were a few graphite pencil notations throughout the text block. The verso of the title page and the first page were marked with graphite pencil and stamp ink. Most of the pages were dirty and creased. Some pages were stained. The inks tested on the attached scrap appeared soluble in water. The volume was housed in a phase box.

TREATMENT REPORT: The volume was microfilmed. Treatment was documented with color slides. The pH was recorded before and after treatment: before, 6.0, after 6.5. The volume was collated and disbound. The tail, and pages were dry cleaned. The pages were washed. Tears were mended and folds guarded with Japanese kozo paper and wheat starch paste. The acidic scrap was removed with local applications of moisture. The volume was sewn into a fold of paper and housed in a phase box.

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4 August 2005
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A

BRIEF NOTICE

OF THE

Settlement of the Town of Newton,

PREPARED BY

A COMMITTEE WHO WERE CHARGED WITH THE DUTY OF

ERECTING A MONUMENT

TO THE

Memory of its First Settlers,

SEPTEMBER, 1852.

BOSTON:
PRINTED BY C. C. P. MOODY, 52 WASHINGTON STREET.
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HISTORICAL NOTICE.

The Committee who have been entrusted with the duty of preparing and erecting this monument, deem it proper to deposite, at the foundation, some historical facts relative to the first settlement of this town, together with a brief notice of each one of the men who were engaged in this enterprise, and their families.

Newton originally formed a part of Cambridge. That territory which now forms the towns of Newton and Brighton, was called in the ancient records, "the South side of Charles River," "Cambridge Village," "New Cambridge," and "Nonantum, (the Indian name.) That part of Cambridge, now Newton, was set off from Cambridge, and made a township, in 1679. The original name for Cambridge, from its first settlement, in 1631, until the establishment of Harvard College, in 1638, was New Town.

The first settlers, (all who settled in Cambridge Village from 1639 to 1664,) of this town did not come into the place in a body, as was the case in the settlement of many of our New England towns, but they came in one after another, from England and from the neighboring towns, as follows:

NAMES OF FIRST SETTLERS.

Date of Settlem't.	Age at Settlem't.		Where from.	Time of Death.	Age.	Am't of Inventory.
1639	39	Dea. John Jackson,	London,	1674–5	75	£1230 0 0
1640	30	Dea. Samuel Hyde,	"	1689	79	
1643	42	Edward Jackson,	"	1681	79½	2477 19 0
1644	33	John Fuller,	England,	1698	87	534 5 0
1647	21	Jonathan Hyde,	London,	1711	85	
1647		Richard Park,	Cambridge, Ms.	1665		972 0 0
1649	29	Capt. Thomas Prentice,	England,	1710	89	
1646	35	John Parker,	Hingham, Ms.	1686	71	412 2 0
1650		Thomas Hammond,	" "	1675		1139 16 2

Date of Settlemt.	Age at Settlem't.		Where from.	Time of Death.	Age.	Am't of Inventory.
1650		Vincent Druce,	Hingham, Ms.	1678		271 19 0
*1650	27	John Ward,	Sudbury, "	1708	82	88 16 10
1650	21	James Prentice,	England,	1710	81	286 14 0
1650		Thomas Prentice, 2d,	"			
1654		Thomas Wiswall,	Dorchester, Ms.	1683		340 0 0
1658	40	John Kenrick,	Boston, "	1686	82	
1661	23	Isaac Williams,	Roxbury, "	1708	69	85 6 9
1662	34	Abraham Williams,	Watertown, "	1712	84	
1664	28	James Trowbridge,	Dorchester, "	1717	81	240 0 7
1664	34	John Spring,	Watertown, "	1717	87	
1664	28	John Eliot, Jr.,	Roxbury, "	1668	33	457 2 5

In addition to these twenty, there were, at the time of Eliot's ordination, twelve young men of the second generation, nearly all unmarried, viz:

John Jackson, Jr.

Sebas Jackson, } Sons of Edward.
Jonathan Jackson, }

Noah Wiswall, Son of Thomas.

John Kenrick, } Sons of John Kenrick.
Elijah Kenrick, }

Vincent Druce, Jr., } Sons of Vincent.
John Druce, }

Samuel Hyde, } Sons of Samuel.
Job Hyde, }

Thomas Park, Son of Richard.

Thomas Hammond, Jr.

In 1656, the inhabitants of Cambridge Village formed a distinct congregation for public worship. (See Holmes' History of Cambridge.) The same year, John Jackson and Thomas Wiswall, in behalf of the inhabitants, petitioned the General Court, to be released from paying rates for the support of the ministry at Cambridge church. The Town of Cambridge remonstrated against this petition, and stated "that many persons in whose names the petition is signed, although inhabitants, yet not by the approbation of the Town, having no right to town privileges, save only the land whereon they dwell, and others of them do live on the farms of those who as yet never

*John Ward had conveyed most of his property by deed of gift to his children before his decease, which was the fact with regard to several of the first settlers, which of course was not included in their inventories.

manifested their desire of any such change; the most of them do live within four miles of our meeting-house, except two or three farms that lie above the Falls on Charles River, near Dedham, and hardly ever go to meeting, and some of them are not much above two miles off.

"If they attain their desire, and set their meetinghouse at their pleasure, sundry of them will be farther from it than many of them now are from Cambridge church; and upon the same ground, when they plead for a division, we have need to have at least four meeting-houses in our town, which now find it difficult to maintain one, as it should."

The Court's Committee, Richard Russell, of Charlestown Eleazur Lusher, of Dedham, and Ephraim Child, of Watertown, reported against this petition,—the principal reason, in their report, was, that "if the petitioners should withdraw their help from Cambridge church and ministry, it would be overburdensome to Cambridge to provide for the support of their minister." The petitioners had leave to withdraw.

In 1660, John Jackson, Senior, gave one acre of land for a meeting-house and for a burial-place, upon which the first meeting-house was erected, in 1660, where the monument (under which this statement is deposited) now stands; this house was standing in 1717. (See Middlesex Deeds, Abraham Jackson to his son John, 24, 580.)

In 1661, the inhabitants of Cambridge Village petitioned the General Court again, to be released from paying church rates to Cambridge. The erection of a new meeting-house had greatly strengthened their petition, and the Court accordingly granted them "freedom from all church rates for the support of the ministry in Cambridge, and for all lands and estates which were more than four miles from Cambridge meeting-house, the measure to be in the usual paths that may be ordinarily passed."

The petitioners were not satisfied with the dividing line, and in 1662, they petitioned the Court for a new line. The action of the Court upon this petition was as follows: "Oct. 1662. In answer to the petition of John Jackson and Thomas Wiswall, in behalf of the inhabitants of Cambridge Village, as a

full and final issue of all things in controversy between the Town of Cambridge and the petitioners, the Court judge it meet to order and appoint, and fully empower Maj. William Hawthorne of Salem, Capt. Francis Norton of Charlestown, and Capt. Hugh Mason of Watertown, as a committee to give the petitioners, or some in their behalf, with some invited in behalf of the Town of Cambridge, opportunity to make their desires known, and Maj. Hawthorne to appoint the time and place for the hearing of what all parties can say, so it be fometime before the next Court of elections; and on the hearing thereof, to issue fully, and absolutely conclude and determine, what they shall judge necessary and just to be done, as to the determining the four mile bounds, that so this Court may no more be troubled thereabouts."

This Committee ran the line and settled the bounds between the Village of Cambridge, in 1662, so far as ministerial taxes were concerned; this, no doubt, is substantially the same line that now divides Newton from Brighton.

On the 20th of July, the Rev. John Eliot, Jr., A. M., son of the Apostolic Eliot, of Roxbury, was ordained the first pastor of the first church in Cambridge Village, which was gathered on the same day; the Elders and messengers of the churches of Roxbury and Dorchester, and of other neighboring towns, were present; at the same time, and agreeably to the custom of that day, Thomas Wiswall, late a member of the Dorchester church, was ordained ruling Elder, or assistant to the Pastor, in inspecting and disciplining the flock.

Eliot, Jr., graduated at Harvard College, 1656, became Master of Arts in 1659. He began to preach about the twenty-second year of his age. He is said to have been "an accomplished person, comely proportion, ruddy complexion, cheerful countenance, and quick apprehension; a good classical scholar, and possessed considerable scientific knowledge, for one of his age and period." A tender and inviolable affection subsisted between him and his people. Under the direction of his father, he obtained considerable proficiency in the Indian language, and was an assistant to him in missionary employment, until his settlement. After his ordination, he preached once in

two weeks to the Indians, at Stoughton, and sometimes at Natick. He was twice married; by his first wife, Sarah, he had a daughter, Sarah, born in 1662, who married John Bowles, Esq., of Roxbury, 1687. By his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Gookin, Esq., he had one son, John, born 1667, who was brought up and educated at Harvard College, by his grandfather Gookin, and married Mary, daughter of John Wolcott, and settled in Windsor, Connecticut. He died Oct. 13, 1668, aged 33, and was interred very near this monument. The following extract is taken from his will, dated 6th August, 1668.

"I desire to commit my precious soul to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three glorious persons, but one only infinite, eternal being, in whom I have believed, and whom I have, (through his grace,) chosen to be my only and everlasting portion; relying and trusting only in the merits and satisfaction of the Lord Jesus Christ; the eternal son of God and yet very man, who was made sin and death for me, that I might be made the righteousness of God in him; and who was dead, but is now alive, sitting at the right hand of God, whom I trust to see with these eyes, and to be ever with him through eternity."

His widow, Elizabeth, married Col. Edmund Quincy, Esq. of Braintree, 8th December, 1680, by whom she had two children, Edmund and Mary, and died 30th November, 1700.

Eliot's homestead of twenty acres, was situated on the westerly side of the Dedham road, about sixty rods north of the burial-place. The well where he drew up his cold water, and doubtless very near the spot where his dwelling-house stood, is still in use, and is now the property of Mrs. Edmands.

The Eliot homestead continued to be the property of his heirs for sixty-five years, after his death, and was then sold to Henry Gibbs, Esq., to raise money to carry his grandson, John Eliot, of Windsor, Connecticut, (then seventeen years old,) through College.

On the 23d December, 1674, the Rev. Nehemiah Hobart, of Hingham, was ordained as the successor of Eliot, and second Pastor of the Church, where he preached forty years.

In 1672, Edward Jackson and John Jackson, in behalf of the inhabitants of Cambridge Village, petitioned the General Court, to be set off from Cambridge, and made an independent town by themselves. In answer to this petition, "The Court, in 1673, doth judge meet to grant to the inhabitants of said Village, annually to elect one Constable and three Selectmen, dwelling among themselves, to order the prudential affairs of the inhabitants there, according to law, only continuing a part of Cambridge in paying County and Country rates, as also Town rates so far as refers to the Grammer School and Bridge over Charles River, and also their proportion of the charges of the Deputies."

This action of the Court was not satisfactory to the Village, and they did not accept or act under it.

In 1677, further action was had relative to the dividing line between Cambridge and the Village. The Village chose Capt. Thomas Prentice, James Trowbridge, Noah Wiswall, and Jonathan Hyde, a Committee to settle the line by reference; two referees to be chosen by the Village, and two from Cambridge, and they four to choose the fifth. The referees thus chosen were Richard Calicott, William Symes, William Johnson, William Bond, and Richard Louden.

The result of this reference was a line described as follows: "Corner near the Widow John Jackson's orchard and a chestnut tree in Mr. Edward Jackson's pasture, and to continue until it comes to the River; then southerly by a heap of stones four miles from Cambridge meeting-house; thence to continue until it comes to Boston, (now Brookline,) bounds; dated July 27, 1677,—probably the line which now divides Newton from Brighton.

In 1678, most of the Freemen from the Village, signed a petition to the General Court, praying to be set off from Cambridge, and be made a town by itself. The following is a copy of the petition:

"To the Honoured Governor, Deputy Governor, together with the Hon. Magistrates now sitting in Boston:

"The humble petition of us, the inhabitants of Cambridge

Village, on the south side of Charles River, showeth, that the late war, as it hath been a great charge to the whole Colony, and to us in particular, both in our estates and persons, by loss of life to some, and others wounded, and disabled for their livelihood, besides all our other great charges in building our meeting-house and of late enlargement to it, and also our charge to the minister's house, and as you know the Lord took the worthy person from us in a little time, and now in great mercy, hath raised up another in the place, who hath a house in building for him which requires assistance, as also, we are now by the great mercy of God, so many families, that a school is required for the education of our children according to law, besides our public charge of the place; yet notwithstanding this, last year the townsmen of Cambridge have imposed a tax upon us, amounting to the sum of three country rates, without our knowledge or consent, which we humbly conceive is very harsh proceeding, for any townsmen of their own will and power, to impose upon the inhabitants what taxes they please, and to what end, without even calling the inhabitants to consider about such charge: yet nevertheless, for peace sake, the inhabitants of our place did meet together, and jointly consent to give the town of Cambridge the sum of £100, and to pay it in three years, without desiring any profit or benefit from them, of wood, timber, or common lands but only for our freedom, being content with our own proprietary, which some of us had, before Cambridge had any site there, which tender of ours they having rejected, as also to grant to us our freedom from them.

"We do most humbly commend our distressed condition to the justice and mercy of this Hon'd Court, that you will please to grant to us our freedom from Cambridge, and that we may be a township of ourselves, without any more dependance upon Cambridge, which hath been a great charge and burden to us, and also, that you would please to give the place a name, and if there should be any objection against us, that the honored Court will admit our reply and defence, so hoping the Almighty will assist you in all your concerns, we rest your humble petitioners."

Mr. Edward Jackson,
Capt. Thomas Prentice,
John Fuller, Sen'r,
John Kenrick, Sen'r,
Isaac Williams,
John Ward,
Joseph Miller,
Thomas Prentice, Jr.,
John Kenrick, Jr.,
John Mason,
William Robinson,
Thomas Greenwood,
John Parker, (South,)
Humphrey Osland,
Joseph Bartlett,
Isaac Bacon,
Jacob Bacon,
Samuel Trusdale,
Simon Onge,
Jonathan Fuller,
John Parker, (East,)
Job Hyde,
Widow Jackson,
Edward Jackson, Jr.
Daniel Ray,
Thomas Prentice, Jr.,
Jonathan Hyde, Sen'r.
Thomas Park, Sen'r,
James Trowbridge,
Noah Wiswall,
Thomas Hammond,
Jonathan Hyde, Jr.,
James Prentice, Sen'r,
David Meade,
Vincent Druce,
John Hyde,
Ebenezer Wiswall,
Elijah Kenrick,
Sebas Jackson,
Samuel Hyde, Jr.
Neal McDaniel,
John Fuller, Jr.
Joshua Fuller,
John Alexander,
John Prentice,
Nathaniel Hammond,
Abraham Jackson,
Stephen Cooke,
Richard Park,
Joseph Fuller,
Isaac Beach,
Peter Stanchet,

(52 in all.)

Freemen in the Village who did not sign this petition.

Rev. Nehemiah Hobart,
Elder Thomas Wiswall,
Deacon Samuel Hyde,
Daniel Bacon,
John Spring,
Daniel Mackay,
James Prentice, Jr.,
John Woodward,
Henry Seger,
Thomas Park, Jr.
John Park,
John Clark,
Samuel Hyde, Jr.

Six of the first settlers had deceased, viz.:

John Jackson, Sen'r,	Rev. John Eliot,
Richard Park, Sen'r.	John Jackson, Jr.
Thomas Hammond, Sen'r,	Vincent Druce, Sen'r.

The petition was presented to the Court at the first session, 1678, and committed, and a hearing of the parties was ordered on the first Tuesday of October, 1678, (2d session,) and all parties to have timely notice. Cambridge presented a remonstrance to the petition, dated 23d October, 1678, signed by their selectmen, containing upwards of fifteen pages. Portions of it are severe and eccentric, as may be seen by the following extracts.

"The petitioners say, 'they plead only for their freedom, being content with their own proprieties;' We answer, that the inhabitants of Cambridge, now dwelling on the north side of Charles river, have well-nigh 3000 acres of land, that is laid out into lots, some 10, 20, or 40 acres, more or less, that they are at this time seized of, and by them kept for herbage, timber, wood and planting lands, so they shall have occasion to use the same, which is by the petitioners, included within that line of division between the town and them, and therefore they do not say words of truth when they say they are content with their own proprieties." * * * * *

"Those of the petitioners who proceeded from Cambridge, who knowing the straightness and want of accommodations to be had among their brethren there, and the lands on that side of the water, being then of small value, proved to themselves large and comfortable accommodations for a small matter. *

"They must and will own, that God hath greatly blessed them; that whereas we on the Town side, that of £1000 that we or our parents brought to this place, and laid out in the Town for the purchasing, at dear rates, which we now enjoy, cannot divest us; they may speak just contrary, or in proportion. We would, if need, now instance some whose parents lived and died here, who when they came to this town had no estate, and some were helped by the charity of the church, and

others yet living there, well know they may say with good Jacob, 'over this Jordan came I with this staff;' and so may they say, over this river went I with this spade, plough, or other tool, and now through God's blessing, am greatly increased; yet here we would not be understood to include every particular person, for we acknowledge that Mr. [Edward] Jackson brought a good estate to the Town, as some others did, and hath not been wanting to the ministry or any good work among us, and therefore we would not reflect upon him in the least.

"There are another sort of persons, that did not proceed from the Town, but came from other towns, who, though they knew the distance of the place from the public meeting-house, the dependency thereof on Cambridge which they now call a great charge and burden, yet they then did choose, and we are assured will own, generally at least, that they have increased their estates, far beyond which those of the town have, or are capable to do. We might instance also, in the inventories of some of them, whose purchase at the first, cost them a very small matter, and their stock and household stuff we judge to be proportionable, and yet when they deceased, an inventory amounting to more than £1100 is given in to the Court, (Witness John Jackson's Inventory, £1230, Richard Parks's £972, and Old Thomas Hammond's £1139,) and others that are yet living, we suppose, have advanced in some measure suitable; they knew beforehand, the distance of their new dwellings from Cambridge, yet this did not obstruct them, in their settlements there, but before they were well warm in their nests, they must divide the Town. * * * * * *

"When the Court being tired out with their eager pursuits, and more private fawnings, and insinuations, granted them committee upon committee to hear and examine the ground of their so great complaints, at last, all issued in a declaration of the unreasonableness of their desire, with reference to the Town, as may appear by the return of the committee, made to the General Court, Oct. 14, 1657: yet have they rested not. In the year 1661, they petitioned the Court, and then obtained freedom from the rates to the Ministry, for all lands and estates

more than 4 miles from Cambridge meeting-house, this being all they then desired." * * * * *

"But all this did not satisfy them; the very next year they petitioned the Court again, and another committee was appointed to come upon the place, and determine the dividing line between the town and them; the result thereof was such, that whereas their grant was for all the lands that were above 4 miles from the Town, they now obtain the stakeing of a line, that generally is (by exact measure) tried and proved to be very little above three miles from Cambridge meeting-house. * *

"All this notwithstanding, those long breathed petitioners finding that they had such good success, that they could never cast their lines into the sea, but something was catched, they resolved to bait their hook again. * * * *

"In 1672, they petitioned the Court for the same thing, and in the same words, that now they do, viz., that they may be a township of themselves, distinct from Cambridge; and then the Court grant them farther liberty than before, viz., to choose their own Constable and three Selectmen, among themselves, to order the prudential affairs of the inhabitants there, only continuing a part of Cambridge, in paying Country and County rates, as also Town rates, so far as refers to the Grammar school, Bridge, and popular charges, they to pay still their proportion with the Town; and this Court declares once more to be an issue to the controversy between Cambridge and them.

* * * * * * * * * *

"And did not this honored Court, as well as we, conclude that the petitioners, having exercised the patience of the Court by their so petitioning, as well as giving trouble to the town, by causing them to dance after their pipes, from time to time, for 24 years, as will appear by the Court's records, in which time they have petitioned the Court near, if not altogether ten times, putting the Town to great charges; yet notwithstanding all this, we are summoned now again, to appear before this honored Court to answer their petition, exhibited for the very same thing." * * * * * * *

"The General Court having 45 years since (or more,) made a grant of the lands (petitioned for) to Cambridge Town, the Court's grant being made to ease the Town and

persons, as his Majesty's royal charter is to this honored assembly, and the whole Colony, we have confidence that such is their wisdom and integrity, that they will not deem it to be in their power to take away from us, or any other Town, or person, any part of what they have had so orderly granted and confirmed to them. Had we no grant upon record, (which is indubitably clear that we have,) yet by the law of possession, it is ours, and may not, without violation of the law, and faith of the Honored Court, be taken from us." * * *

"Cambridge is the womb, out of which the petitioners have sprung, and therefore, ought in the first place to be provided for, and the question in equity ought to be, not what do the petitioners crave, and might be convenient for them? but what may Cambridge spare? Now, that Cambridge cannot spare what they desire, we shall prove:

"From the situation of our town, being planted on a neck of land, hem'd about by neighboring towns; Water Town coming on the one side, within half a mile of our meeting-house, and Charlestown as near on the other side, so that our bounds is not much above a mile in breadth for near three miles together; and on the south side of the river, the petitioners have gained their line, to come very near within three miles of our meeting-house.

"The most considerable part of the best and most accommodable of those near lands to our Town, are belonging to Mr. Pelham and others that live not in the town, so that the far greater number of those that live in the town, are put to hire grass for their cattle to feed upon, in the summer time, which costs them at least 12s., some 15s. a head in money, for one cow the summer feed; and corn land, they have not sufficient to find the Town with bread.

"Cambridge is not a Town of trade or merchandize, as the sea port towns be, but what they do, must be in a way of husbandry, altho' never so hard terms, they having no other way of supply. * * * * * * * * *

"Finally, we humbly entreat, that this, our defence, may be entered in the Court's Register, there to remain for the vindication of our just rights, in perpetuum and memoriam, praying that the God of wisdom and truth may direct and guide this

Hon'd Court in their issuing of this, and all other, their more weighty concerns, we subscribe ourselves your humble and dutiful servants and supplicants,

JOHN COOPER,
WILLIAM MANNING,
JOHN STONE,
WALTER HASTINGS,
FRANCIS MOORE,
NATHANIEL SPARHAWK, } *Selectmen.*

Cambridge, 23, 8, 1678.

The result was, that the court granted the prayer of the petition, and Cambridge Village was set off from Cambridge, and made an independent town. The Court ordered that the freeholders of the Village should be duly notified to meet on the 27th day of August, 1679, and choose Selectmen and other town officers to manage the municipal affairs of the Village as other towns, according to law.

The freeholders were duly notified, and the *first Town meeting*, was held on that day, "*by virtue of an order of the General Court*," and so recorded by the Town Clerk, at which meeting, Capt. Thomas Prentice, John Ward, and James Trowbridge, were chosen Selectmen, and Thomas Greenwood Constable, and the Town was called New Cambridge.

The first Town records were commenced on that day, and all the machinery of a New England Town, was put in motion for the first time in the Village by an "order of the General Court."

Previous to this time, their Town meetings were held at Cambridge, and the town officers were chosen there. On and after the 27th day of August, 1679, the freemen of the Village held their Town meetings at New Cambridge, and conducted the municipal affairs of their town, without any dictation, or interference of Cambridge, and according to the will and pleasure of the majority of its freeholders.

During their long and severe struggle to obtain the privileges of an independent Town, the inhabitants of the Village had shown a most determined perseverance, and love of freedom.

They had petitioned the General Court, time after time, for 23 years. The parties had met each other repeatedly, by committees, and otherwise, and Cambridge had made several offers to the Village, by way of compromise, but the inhabitants of the Village were determined to accept nothing short of an independent Town.

There were 65 freemen in the Village, when the new town was launched, 52 of whom signed the petition, which severed the Village from Cambridge.

Soon after the removal of the tyrannical Governor Andros, the inhabitants of New Cambridge met, on the 20th May, 1689, and passed the following declarations, viz.:

"That it is our desire,

1. "That the Hon. Governor and Deputy Governor, and Assistants, chosen and sworn in the year 1686, and the Deputies then chosen by the freemen for that year, do now resume the government of the Colony, according to Charter privileges.

2. "That there may be an enlargement of Freemen, that is to say, that those persons who are of honest conversation and a competent estate, may have their votes in all civil elections.

3. "That the Court, having thus re-assumed the government, then endeavor to confirm our Charter privileges.

4. "That the Court, thus settled, do not admit of any change or alteration of government among us, until it is first signified to the several towns for their approbation."

On the same day, also, the inhabitants made choice of Ensign John Ward, as their representative, or deputy, in the present session of the General Court.

The name of New Cambridge was not given by the General Court, but was assumed by the inhabitants of the Village and generally acquiesced in by the public, and recognized by the General Court, as their records show. But the inhabitants of New Cambridge soon became dissatisfied with this name, and they petitioned the General Court, more than once, to give the place a name; whereupon the Court passed the following order:

"Dec. 15, 1691. In answer to the petition of the inhabitants of Cambridge Village, lying on the south side of Charles river, being granted to be a township, praying that a name may be given unto the said town,—it is ordered that it be henceforth called New Town."

This order of the Court, for a name only, has been mistaken by historians for an act of incorporation of the town; whereas the petitioners had been in possession of that privilege for twelve years. The child was born on the 27th August, 1679, but was not duly christened until 15th December, 1691.

The name stands upon the Court records in two words, one syllable each, as it was originally written in 1631. This form of writing it, was gradually altered to one word with two syllables, but all the Town Clerks of Newton followed the Court's order in the spelling of the name, until 1766, when Judge Fuller was chosen Town Clerk, and held that office for 26 years. he always spelt it on the town records, *Newton*,—there was no vote,—usage, in the town, and in other towns, had prepared the way for him to assume the responsibility of making the contraction by dropping the *w* from the last syllable.

G. D. Gilman

This pamphlet was given to me by Miss Thurston, the Librarian of the Newton Free Public Library in June 1912, as there were duplicates

Chas. S. Sargent.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

Dea. John Jackson was the first settler of Cambridge Village who remained and died in it. He brought a good estate with him from England. He bought a dwelling house and eighteen acres of land of Miles Ives of Watertown in 1639.—This Estate was situated on the line which now divides Newton from Brighton. He took the Freeman's oath in 1641. Was one of the first deacons of the church—gave one acre of land for the church and a burying place, on which the first Meeting House was erected in 1660, and which is now a part of the East Parish Cemetery. He was probably the son of Christopher Jackson, of London, who died 5th of December, 1633. He had, by two wives, five sons and ten daughters, and at the time of his decease about 50 grand-children.

The time when he came into the Village may properly be considered as the centennial anniversary of the first settlement of Newton. He died Jan. 30th, 1675, leaving an Estate valued at £1230. His widow, Margaret, died Aug. 28, 1684, Æ 60. His son, Edward, was slain by the Indians at Medfield, in their attack upon and burning of that town, Feb. 21, 1676. His house was near the place where Mr. Smallwood's shop now stands. The cellar yet remains, and the pear trees now standing there, are supposed to have been planted by him. Abraham was the only one, among his sons who reared a family. Abraham gave one acre of land adjoining that given by his father for the Church and Burying ground, which two acres now form the ancient part of the Centre Cemetery.

Deacon Samuel Hyde was born in 1610. He embarked the ship Jonathan, at London, for Boston, in April, 1639, and settled in Cambridge Village about 1640. In 1647, he and his brother Jonathan bought of Thomas Danforth 40 acres of land. In 1652, they bought 200 acres of the administrators of Nathl. Sparhawk. They held this land in common until 1662, when

it was divided. He was one of the first deacons of the church. He had by his wife Temperance, Samuel, Joshua, Job, Sarah, and Elizabeth. Sarah married Thomas Woolson, of Watertown, 1660. Elizabeth, Humphrey Osland, 1667. Samuel conveyed to his son-in-law Osland a piece of his land on the west side of the Dedham road, in 1678, on which the latter had previously built a house, being part of the same land now owned by Mr. Lombard. Samuel died in 1689, æ. 79, and his wife Temperance soon after.

His descendents, Samuel of the ~~fifth~~ 6th generation, and George of the ~~sixth~~ 7th, now reside upon and own a part of the same land.

His son Job married Elizabeth, daughter of John Fuller. He and his wife both died in Nov. 1685. His father, Dea. Samuel, took and provided for half their children, and John Fuller the other half.—(See their wills Vol. 7. and 9.)

His son Samuel married Hannah Stedman, 1673. His house was burnt May 21, 1709, and with the assistance of his neighbors raised again in fourteen days. He died 1725, and his wife in 1727. His house stood on the east side of the Dedham road, near where Mr. George Hyde's now stands.

Edward Jackson, Senr., was born in London, 1602, according to his grave-stone. Recent examinations of the parish register of White Chapel, where he lived and followed the trade of a nail-maker, it appears that he was the son of Christopher Jackson, and was baptized 3 Feb., 1604. His first wife's name was Frances, by whom he had four sons and four daughters. There is a tradition in the family, that the youngest son Sebas was born on the passage to this country 1642 or '43: if so, Frances the mother, died on the passage, or soon after their arrival here. His second marriage, in March 1649, was with Elizabeth, daughter of John Newgate, and widow of Rev. John Oliver, H. C. 1645, the first minister of Rumney Marsh, (Chelsea,) by whom he had four daughters and one son. He purchased land in Cambridge Village, of Samuel Holly, in 1643. He took the Freeman's oath in 1645; the year following, he purchased a farm from Governor Bradstreet, of 500 acres, for £140, long known as the Mayhew farm; Bradstreet having

purchased it of Thomas Mayhew in 1638, with all the buildings thereon, for six cows. This 500 acre farm commenced near what is now the division line between Newton and Brighton, and extended westward, including what is now Newtonville, and covering the site where Judge Fuller's mansion house stood. The site where Gen. Michael Jackson's mansion house stood, was near the centre of the Mayhew farm; and a few rods nearer the brook, stood the old dwelling house conveyed with the land in Mayhew's deed to Bradstreet: of course it was built previous to 1638, and therefore highly probable that it was the first dwelling house built in Newton; the cellar hole, a few rods from the brook, is still visible.

In the laying out of the highway in 1708, which passed by the old house, the description is, "crossing the brook near where the old house stood." The house which was erected before 1638, was gone before 1708; it had stood about the allotted space of three score and ten. It was probably the first residence of Edward Jackson, Senr., in Cambridge Village, from his first coming in 1642 or '3, until his marriage in 1649, and perhaps for many more years. At his death in 1681, his then dwelling house stood about three quarters of a mile east of the old house, and is described as a spacious mansion with a hall, designed, no doubt, for religious meetings.

He was chosen one of the Deputies (Reps.) from Cambridge to the General Court, in 1647, and continued to be elected to that office annually, or semi-annually, for seventeen years in all, and was otherwise much engaged in public life.—One of the selectmen of Cambridge in 1665; chairman of a committee with Edward Oakes and Lieut. Gov. Danforth, appointed by the town of Cambridge, in 1653, to lay out all necessary highways in Cambridge, on the south side of Charles River; chairman of a committee with his brother John Jackson, Richard Park, and Samuel Hyde, to lay out and settle highways as need shall require in Cambridge Village; one of the commissioners to end small causes in Cambridge, several years.

He was constantly present with the Rev. John Eliot at his lectures to the Indians at Nonantum, to take notes of the questions of the Indians, and of the answers of Mr. Eliot.

He was one of the proprietors of Cambridge, and in the division of the common lands in 1662 he had four acres, and in 1664 he had thirty acres. He was also a large proprietor in the Billerica lands, and in the division of 1652 he had 400 acres, which, by his will, he gave to Harvard College, together with other bequests.

He was the author and first signer of a petition in 1678, to have Cambridge Village set off from Cambridge, and made an independent town by itself, which petition was granted in 1679, notwithstanding the powerful opposition of Cambridge, which, in its bitter remonstrance, voluntarily bears strong and honorable testimony of Edward Jackson.

After saying many hard words about the petitioners, it adds: "We would not be understood to include every particular person, for we acknowledge that Mr. Jackson bro't a good estate to the town, as some others did, and hath not been wanting to the ministry, or any good work among us, and therefore we would not reflect upon him in the least."

Johnson's History of New England contains a short notice of the characters of many of the leading men of his time, among whom he classes Edward Jackson, and says, "he could not endure to see the truths of Christ trampled under foot by the erroneous party." He had thirteen children and upwards of sixty grandchildren.

He died 17 June 1681, æ. 79 years and 5 months. His inventory contained upwards of 1600 acres of land, and amounted to £2477 19s. 0d. It also included two men-servants, appraised at £5 each. (He was probably the first slave-holder in Newton!) His wife outlived him twenty-eight years, and died 30 Sept. 1709, æ. 92.

He was a land surveyor, and not long before his death surveyed his own lands, and made a division of them to his children, putting up metes and bounds.

It is a remarkable fact in relation to these two brothers, John and Edward Jackson, that while Edward had but three sons, and John five, there are multitudes of Edward's posterity who bear his name, and not more than three or four of John's. Forty-four of Edward's descendants went into the revolutionary

army from Newton, and not one of John's. But now there are but three families in the town, of his descendants that bear his name.

John Fuller was born in 1611, and settled in Cambridge Village in 1644. In Dec. 1658, he purchased of Joseph Cooke 750 acres of Land for £160, bounded north and west by Charles River, south by Samuel Shepard, and east by Thomas Park. His house stood on the south side of the road, on the west side of the brook, and within a few rods of both road and brook. By subsequent purchase he increased his farm to 1000 acres. Chesse-cake Brook ran through it. He had six sons and two daughters. His son Isaac died before him. He divided his farm between the other five sons, viz: John, Jonathan, Joseph, Jeremiah, and Joshua. This tract of land was long known as the "Fuller Farm," or "Fuller's Corner." He was a malster: was a selectman from 1684 to 1694. He died in 1698-9, æ. 87: his wife Elizabeth died 1700. They left five sons, two daughters, and forty-five grandchildren. The inventory of his property amounted to £534 5s. 0d. His will provides that none of the land bequeathed to his sons should be sold to strangers, until first offered to the nearest relation. Twenty-two of his descendants went into the revolutionary army from Newton.—(See his will in the Probate office, 9th vol.)

The ages of his five sons were as follows: John 75, Jonathan 74, Joseph 88, Jeremiah 85, Joshua 98. Joshua was married a second time when 88 years old to Mary Dana of Cambridge, in 1742, who was in her 75th year.

Edward Jackson and John Fuller came into the Village about the same time, probably knew each other in England, were the largest land-owners in the Village, divided their lands among their children in their life-time, confirming the division by their wills, and have had a far greater number of descendents than any of the other early settlers of the town.

John Parker was one of the earliest ettlers of Hingham. He probably came over in the ship James, of London, in 1635. He had land granted to him there in 1636, and 1640. He was a carpenter. He removed from Hingham, and bought a tract of land in the easterly part of Cambridge Village, in March,

x Elizabeth 6th daughter of Walter - Lavenham Suffolk Co. England - 1622

1650, adjoining the lands of John Ward and Vincent Druce. His wife's name was Joanna, by whom he had five sons and five daughters. He died in 1686, aged 71. His estate was appraised by Capt. Isaac Williams and John Spring, and amounted to £412 2s. 0d. His will is dated 7th Sept., 1686, and recorded in the Suffolk Registry, 11th vol.

This Parker's homestead passed into the hands of the Hon. Ebenezer Stone, soon after Parker's death, and is now owned by Mr. John Kingsbury.

The Newton Parkers have descended from two distinct families, viz., from John and Joanna, of Hingham, and from Samuel and Sarah, of Dedham. Nathaniel was a prominent man of Newton, being the son of Samuel and Sarah, born in Dedham, 26th March, 1670. At the time of the erection of the third meeting-house, he owned the land on which it was placed, the contents of which was 1½ acres and 20 rods, which he sold for £15, and conveyed it to the Selectmen of Newton, in August, 1716. Middlesex Deeds, 18, 129.

Richard Park was a proprietor in Cambridge, 1636, and of Cambridge Farms, (Lexington,) 1642. In 1647 there was a division of lands, and he had eleven acres, abutting on Mr. Edward Jackson's land, east and west, and the highway to Dedham was laid out through it; his dwelling-house was probably erected on this lot; it stood within a few feet of the spot now occupied by the Eliot church. This ancient house was pulled down about 1800. This spot was near the four mile line, or the division line between Cambridge and Cambridge Village. During the contest between the Village and Cambridge, to be set off, he sent a petition to the Court, praying to retain his connection with Cambridge church.

He owned a large tract of land in the Village, bounded west by the Fuller farm, north by Charles River, east by the Dummer farm, and east and south by the Mayhew farm, (Edward Jackson's,) containing about 600 acres. By his will, dated 12, 5, 1665, he bequeaths to his only son, Thomas, this tract of land, with the houses thereon, after the decease of his wife, Sarah. This only son, Thomas, married Abigail Dix of Watertown, 1653, and had five sons and four daughters, among whom this tract of land was divided in 1694, (Thomas having de-

ceased,) and the contents then were about 800 acres, Thomas having added, by purchase, about 200 acres, and built a corn-mill upon Charles River, near where the Bemis Factory now is.

In 1657, Richard Park was one of a committee with Mr. Edward Jackson, John Jackson, and Samuel Hyde, to lay out and settle highways in Cambridge Village. In 1663, he was released from training, and therefore past 60 years of age. He died in 1665, leaving a will, witnessed by Elder Wiswall and Hugh Mason. in which he names his wife, Sarah, two daughters, and only son, Thomas. One of his daughters married Francis Whittemore, of Cambridge. His inventory, dated Aug. 19, 1665, amounted to £872. His widow, Sarah, was living at Duxbury, in 1668.

Henry Parke, of London, merchant, son and heir of Edward Parke, of London, merchant, deceased, conveyed land in Cambridge to John Stedman, in 1650. Edward may have been the ancestor of the first settlers of that name in New England, viz., of Dea. William of Roxbury, Richard of Cambridge Village, Samuel of Mystic, and Thomas of Stonington.

Jonathan Hyde was born 1626. Purchased 240 acres of land in Newton, with his brother Samuel, which they owned in common until 1661. In 1656, he bought 80 acres of land, which was one-eighth of the tract recovered by Cambridge of Dedham, in a law-suit, He settled upon the land, and increased it by subsequent purchases, to several hundred acres. His house was about sixty rods north of the centre meeting-house. He bought and sold much land in the town. He had 23 children,—15 by Mary French, daughter of William French of Billerica, and 8 by Mary Rediat, daughter of John Rediat of Marlborough, with whom he made a marriage covenant in 1673, in which it was stipulated, that in case he should die first, she should have his house, barn, and about 100 acres of land. This part of his homestead was bounded by the highway from Watertown to Dedham, 160 rods, and 100 deep, and south by the farm of Elder Wiswall, reserving a highway one rod wide, next to Wiswall's. This highway ran from the training-field by the north bank of Wiswall's Pond, and for the last century has been known by the name of Blanden's Lane.

The front of this lot extended from this lane, northerly, to about opposite the road leading to the east part of the town. This farm, therefore, was very near the centre of Newton, and included the spot where the centre meeting-house now stands. In 1702 he gave to John Kenrick and others, Selectmen of Newton and their successors in office "half an acre of his homestead," for the use and benefit of the school in the southerly part of the town. It is supposed that he also gave the land at the wide part of the Dedham highway, near the centre of the town, for a training-field, but no record of this gift has yet been found. He was Selectman in 1691, and in his deeds was styled "Sargeant." A few years before his decease, he settled his own estate, by deeds of gift to eleven of his children, conveying about 400 acres, with several dwelling-houses thereon. The other 12 children had probably died before him, or had been otherwise provided for.

His first wife died May 27, 1672, aged 39; his second Sept. 5, 1708. He died Oct. 5, 1711, aged 85, leaving a multitude of grandchildren.

Capt. Thomas Prentice was born in England in 1621. He was in this country Nov. 22, 1649, as shown by the recorded birth of his children, Thomas and Elizabeth, (twins.)

He was chosen lieutenant of the company of horse in the lower Middlesex regiment, in 1656, and captain in 1662. In 1661, he purchased 300 acres of land in the Pequod country. This tract was in Stonington, Connecticut. 230 acres of this land was appraised in his inventory at £109, in 1685. His grandson, Samuel, married Esther Hammond, and settled upon this land in 1710. In 1663 he purchased of Elder Frost of Cambridge, 85 acres of land in the easterly part of Cambridge Village, adjoining John Ward's land. This was his homestead for about 50 years. In 1705, he conveyed it by deed of gift to his grandson, Capt. Thomas Prentice. His house was on the spot where the Harback House now stands. He was one of the Cambridge proprietors, and in the division of the common lands he had a dividend of 150 acres in Billerica, in 1652, and nine acres in Cambridge Village, in 1664.

He was greatly distinguished for his bravery and heroism in

Phillip's War. This war broke out in 1675. On the 26th of June, a company of infantry, under Capt. Henchman, from Boston, and a company of horse under Capt. Prentice, from Cambridge Village and adjoining towns, (20 from the Village and 21 from Dedham,) marched for Mount Hope. In their first conflict with the Indians, in Swanzey, William Hammond was killed, and Corporal Belcher had his horse shot under him, and was himself wounded; and on the first of July they had another encounter with the Indians, on a plain near Rehoboth, four or five of whom were slain, among them, Thebe, a sachem of Mount Hope, and another was one of Philip's chiefs. In this affair, John Druce, son of Vincent, (one of the first settlers, of the Village, was mortally wounded. He was brought home, and died at his own house next day.

On the 10th of December, five companies of infantry, and Capt. Prentice's troop of horse, marched from Massachusetts, and from Plymouth Colony, to Narraghansett. On the 16th, Capt. Prentice received advice that the Indians had burned Jeremiah Ball's house, and killed 18 men, women, and children. He marched immediately in pursuit, killed ten of the Indians, captured 55, and burned 150 wigwams. "This exploit, (says the historian of that day,) was performed by Captain Prentice, of the Horse."

On the 21st of January, 1676, Capt. Prentice's troop being in advance of the infantry, met with a party of Indians, captured two, and killed nine of them. On the 18th of April following, the Indians made a vigorous attack on Sudbury. Captains Wadsworth and Brocklebank fought bravely in defence, but were overpowered, and 18 of their men took refuge in a mill. When notice of this attack reached Capt. Prentice, he started immediately for Sudbury, with but few of his company, and entered that town with but six beside himself. The remnant of Capt Wadsworth's men defended the mill bravely, until night, when they were relieved, and the Indians put to flight. In short, all accounts agree that Capt. Prentice rendered most invaluable services throughout the war. He was constantly on the alert, and by his bold and rapid marches, he put the enemy to the sword or flight, and made his name a terror to all

the hostile Indians. After Phillip was slain, in July, 1676, terms of peace were offered to all Indians who would come in and surrender. A Nipnut sachem, called John, with a number of his men, embraced this offer, and by order of the General Court were given in charge to Capt. Prentice, who kept them at his house in Cambridge Village.

Prentice had been in command of this company fifteen years when Phillip's war broke out, and was then 55 years old. He was hardy, athletic, and robust, and capable of enduring great fatigue. He continued to ride on horseback to the end of his long life, his death being occasioned by a fall from his horse.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Indian converts maintained unshaken, their fidelity to the English, such was the prejudice against, and fear of them, that the General Court on the breaking out of Phillip's war ordered them to be removed to Deer Island, in Boston harbor, and Capt. Prentice, with his troopers, were charged with the execution of this order. Their number, including men, women and children, was about 200.

Although Prentice was a terrible enemy to the hostile Indians, and greatly feared by them, he was a warm friend and counsellor, and had the full confidence of the friendly tribes.

For many years, Gen. Gookin was, by the appointment of the General Court, the magistrate for managing, advising, and watching over, the friendly Indians.

After his death, the Indians residing at Natick, Punkapoag, Wamessik, Hassenamaskok, and Kecumuchoag, all united in a petition to the General Court, in 1691, that Capt. Prentice might be appointed their ruler.

Prentice was appointed one of a committee to proceed to Quinsigamond, (Worcester,) with a view of forming a settlement there. He was one of the owners of the first 58 houses built there, and had a grant of 50 acres of land for his public services.

He was a Representative to the General Court in 1672, '73, and '74. In 1679 he was appointed chalrman of a committee for re-building the town of Lancaster, which was destroyed by the Indians, during Phillip's war.

Capt. Prentice and his wife, Grace, had four sons and four

daughters. Two of his sons died in childhood. The other two were married. Thomas, the oldest had three sons, and died in 1685, and the old Captain had the bringing up of the three grandsons, to whom he gave a good education, and all his estate. Thomas, the oldest grandson, was a leading man in Newton, a Captain of infantry, and died in 1730.

The second grandson, John, married a daughter of Edward Jackson, and died at the age of 35, leaving no children.

The third grandson, Samuel, married Esther, daughter of Nathaniel Hammond, and settled in Stonington, Connecticut. Numerous descendents have proceeded from this marriage.

Capt. Prentice s wife, Grace, died Oct. 9, 1692. He died July 6, 1710, aged 89, and was buried under arms, by the company of troop, on the 8th of July. He settled his own estate, by deeds of gift to his grandchildren. He was undoubtedly one of the most substantial men of his age, and had the entire confidence of his associates in the settlement of Cambridge Village. Edward Jackson's will, made in 1681, has testimony to this effect, as follows:

"I bequeath to my honored friend, Capt. Thomas Prentice, one diamond ring."

Thomas Hammond was one of the earliest settlers of Hingham, took the freeman's oath there 9th March, 1637, had land granted to him there in 1636, and in 1637, his children were born and baptized in Hingham. He sold his lands in Hingham in 1652, and his dwelling-house in 1656. In 1650, he and Vincent Druce bought of Nicholas Hodgden land in Cambridge Village, and in 1658 they bought of Thomas Brattle and others 600 acres, partly in Cambridge Village and partly in Muddy River. They held this land in common, until 1664, when a division was made between them. The dividing line was 100 rods in length, running over the great hill. The pond was in Hammond's part, and has been called by his name ever since. He also bought, in 1656, 330 acres, of Esther Sparhawk. His wife's name was Elizabeth. They had two sons and two daughters. He died 30th September, 1675, leaving a will written by his own hand, but not signed, in which he calls himself aged —, gives his wife his dwelling-house, &c. during her life

and divides his lands among his children. His inventory was taken by Elder Wiswall and John Spring, and amounted to £1139 16s. 2d. He had four children, and upwards of twenty grandchildren.

Vincent Druce was one of the earliest settlers of Hingham, being there in 1636. He had land granted him there in 1636 and 1637. His son John was baptized in Hingham, in April, 1641.

In 1650, Nicholas Hodgden, of Boston, (now Brookline,) conveyed to Thomas Hammond and Vincent Druce of Cambridge, a tract of land in the easterly part of Cambridge Village, adjoining John Parker's land, which land was originally granted by the town of Cambridge to Robert Bradish.

The highway from Cambridge Village to Muddy River, (Brookline,) was laid out through these lands in 1658. John Ward conveyed to Druce 130 acres of land, bounded east by the Roxbury line, and north by Muddy River line. His dwelling-house was near the spot now occupied by the school-house of the East District. He had two sons, Vincent and John. John was a soldier in Captain Prentice's troop of horse, and was killed in the war with King Phillip, at Mount Hope, in 1675, aged 34, and was probably the first victim that fell in that war, from Cambridge Village. Vincent died January 1678, leaving a will, recorded on Suffolk Records, Vol. 6.

Ensign John Ward was born in England, in 1526. He was the oldest son of William Ward, who with his second wife, Elizabeth, and other children, came from Yorkshire or Derbyshire, and settled in Sudbury, where he had lands assigned to him in 1640.

John married Hannah, the daughter of Edward Jackson, about 1650; was selectman nine years, from 1679, and a representative eight years, being the first ever sent from Cambridge Village. The first year, 1679, he served 54 days, and the Village voted "1s. 6d. per day, for his serving." His dwelling-house was constructed for a garrison-house, about 1661, and used as such during King Phillip's war. This ancient building stood where Mr. Ephraim Ward's (a descendent from John) now stands, and was demolished in 1821. This house, and 45 acres

of land, was conveyed to John and Hannah, by his father-in-law, Edward Jackson, by deed, dated March 10, 1661, witnessed by John Jackson and John Spring. He owned about 500 acres of land, which he distributed among his sons by deeds of gift, in 1701. He was, by trade, a turner. He had eight sons and five daughters. He made a will, in 1707, and died July 1st, 1708, aged 82. His wife, Hannah, died April 24th, 1704, aged 73. His will is recorded in the 11th volume of the Middlesex Probate Records.

There were twelve of this name among the first settlers of New England.

James Prentice, and Thomas Prentice Jr., both of Cambridge, purchased of Thomas Danforth, 400 acres of land, in Cambridge, in March, 1650; and in 1657 they purchased 100 acres, of Danforth, "being the farm that James Prentice now dwells on, bounded N. E. by land of John Jackson," part of which is now the ahcient burial-place. This Prentice farm was on the easterly side of the Dedham road, and extended from the burial-place, southwesterly, beyond the house now occupied by Marshall S. Rice, the present Town Clerk. James, and Thomas, Jr., or 2d, were probably brothers, and doubtless came into Cambridge Village the same year that Capt. Thomas Prentice did.

The ancient Prentice house was demolished in 1800; it stood a few rods south-east of the house now occupied by Joshua Loring.

James Prentice married Susanna, the daughter of Capt. Edward Johnson, of Woburn, and had one son James and five daughters. Capt. Johnson, by his will, dated 1672, gives his grandson, James Prentice, £15, and also makes a small bequest to Susanna, and Hannah Prentice, the daughters of his son-in-law, James Prentice.

He was Selectman in 1694. He died 7th March, 1710, aged 81. His son James, and his widow Susanna, administered on his estate, which amounted to £286 14s. James sold out his share in his father's estate, for £60, in 1711, to his five sisters, "all single women," and probably left the town.

Thomas Prentice, 2d, purchased of Thomas Danforth, 400

acres of land, in Cambridge, in March, 1650, and 100 acres in 1657. Both parcels were conveyed to James Prentice, and Thomas Prentice, Jr., the 100 acres being described as "the farm that James Prentice now dwells on." He married Rebecca, daughter of Edward Jackson, Sen'r, by his first wife, who was born in England, about 1632, and had six sons and one daughter. There is no record of the birth, marriages, or deaths, of the parents or children of this family. Edward Jackson, by his will, gave him 100 acres of land, called "Bald Pate Meadow," and several other tracts of land, and to his wife, Rebecca, a gold ring, with this motto, "*Memento Morex.*"

When he came into the Village, he was called Thomas, Jr.; when Capt. Thomas Prentice's son Thomas was grown up, he was called Thomas, 2d; when his own son Thomas was grown up, he was called Thomas, while the Captain was called, and widely known, by his military title. Edward Jackson, by his will, makes bequests to both these Prentices, in 1681; the one he styles Thomas Prentice, and the other Capt. Thomas Prentice. In the latter part of his life, he was called Thomas, Sen'r.

In 1706, he conveyed land to his grandsons, Thomas and Samuel, and in 1714, he conveyed land to his sons Thomas and John, in which conveyance he names his son Edward. There is an affidavit of his, signed Thomas Prentice, Sen'r, dated 1713, and recorded with the deeds, stating that "60 years ago he held one end of a chain to lay out a highway over Weedy Hill, in Cambridge Village." Supposing him to be 21 years old, then, would make his birth in 1632. He lived to a great age, but the time of his death is unknown.

Thomas Wiswall was a prominent man among the first settlers of Dorchester. He came to this country about 1637. He was Selectman in Dorchester in 1644, and '52, and highway surveyor in Cambridge Village, 1656, having removed into the Village in 1654. He was one of the signers of a petition for the support of a free school in Dorchester, in 1641, took the Freeman's Oath in 1654, and was one of the petitioners to the General Court for having the inhabitants of Cambridge Village released from paying taxes to Cambridge church. In 1657, he and his wife conveyed to his son Enoch of Dorchester, his

homestead in Dorchester, which formerly belonged to Mr. Maverick.

In 1664, he was ordained ruling elder of the Cambridge Village church. His homestead in the Village consisted of 300 acres, including the pond which still bears his name. His house was upon its south bank, where that of Luther Paul, Esq., now is. He had four sons and three daughters, with upwards of thirty grand-children.

His last wife was Isabella Farmer, widow, from Ansly, in England. He died, intestate, Dec. 6, 1683, aged 80. His inventory amounted to £340. There is no monument to his memory, unless the pond be such. Surely none could be more beautiful or enduring. It was *his*, has for two centuries been known as, and called "Wiswall's Pond." May its name never be changed.

His son Noah, married Theodocia, daughter of John Jackson, and had two sons and six daughters. He was slain on the Lord's Day, July 6, 1690, in an engagement with the French and Indians, at Wheeler's Pond, now Lee, New Hampshire. His son Ichabod, became minister of Duxbury.

John Kenrick was born in England, in 1605, was in Boston as early as 1639, and then a member of the church. He took the freeman's oath in 1640. He owned a wharf on the easterly side of the town dock, since called Tyng's wharf, which he sold in 1652. He purchased 250 acres of land, in the southerly part of Cambridge Village, in 1658. His house was near the bridge across Charles River, which has been called Kenrick Bridge, from that day to this. His first wife, Anna, died Nov. 1656. He died Aug. 29, 1686, aged 82. His second wife, Judith, died at Roxbury, Aug. 23, 1687. He had two sons, John and Elijah, and one daughter, Hannah, who married Jonathan Metcalf, of Dedham. John had nine daughters and two sons, and Elijah three daughters and three sons.

Capt. Isaac Williams was the second son of Robert Williams of Roxbury, who came from Norwich in England, the common ancestor of many distinguished men, who have honored the country of their birth. Isaac was born in Roxbury, Sept. 1, 1638. He married Martha, daughter of Dea. William

Park, of Roxbury, about 1661, and settled in the west part of the Village. His second wife was Judith Cooper. He owned 500 acres of land, adjoining John Fuller's farm on the west Thomas Park, John Fuller, and Isaac Williams, were the first, and probably at that time, the only settlers of West Newton. Williams' house was about thirty rods north-easterly of the West Parish meeting-house, near the brook, and on land now owned by Mrs. Whitwell. He was a weaver by trade, and represented the town in the General Court six years. A Selectman three years. His farm was divided among his three sons, 250 acres to Isaac, 100 to Eleazer, and to Ephraim 150, and the mansion house. This land was granted by the town of Cambridge to Samuel Shepard, in 1640. In 1652, Robert Barrington, Esq., obtained judgment against the estate of Samuel Shepard, and this tract was appraised at £150, to satisfy the execution. Dea. William Park, of Roxbury, the father of Isaac Williams' first wife, paid the execution, and took this tract of land for his son-in-law.

Capt. Williams died Feb. 11, 1707, aged 69. He had twelve children, and upwards of fifty grandchildren.

His son William, graduated at Harvard College in 1683, and became minister of Hatfield.

His son Ephraim, married Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham Jackson, and his son Ephraim was the founder of Williams College.

Abraham Williams was not related to Capt. Isaac. He came from Watertown, where he took the freeman's oath in 1652. He purchased a dwelling-house and twelve acres of land of John Callon in August, 1654. In 1662 he purchased of William Clemens a dwelling-house and six acres of land, in what is now called Newton Corner, very near the Watertown line.

He married Joanna, sister of John Ward, about 1660, by whom he had two sons and two daughters, and perhaps others, two of which were born in Cambridge Village.

He sold his place to Gregory Cook, and removed to Marlboro' in 1668, near Belchar's Pond. He was a colonel in the militia, and represented Marlboro' in the General Court. He

kept a public house in that town, which was long known by the name of the "Williams Tavern," where he died Dec. 29, 1712, aged 84. His widow Joanna died Dec. 8. 1718, aged 90. His will was dated Dec. 18, 1711.

James Trowbridge was born in Dorchester, and baptized there in 1638. His father was Thomas Trowbridge, one of the early settlers of Dorchester, a merchant, and was engaged in the Barbadoes trade: he came from Taunton, Eng., where his father founded a large charity for poor widows, which is still administered for their benefit. Thomas went home to Taunton in 1644, leaving his three sons in charge of Sergeant Jeffries of Dorchester, who removed with those sons to New Haven, about 1638. Thomas, the father, died in Taunton, Eng., about 1670.

James returned from New Haven to Dorchester, about 1656, where he married Margaret, the daughter Major Humphrey Atherton, 30 Dec., 1659, and had three children in Dorchester, and removed to Cambridge Village: his wife Margaret was dismissed from the church in Dorchester to form a church at Cambridge Village, in 1664. After the death of John Jackson he became deacon of the church. He was one of the first board of Selectmen formed in the Village, in August, 1679, and continued in that office nine years.

In 1675 he purchased of Deputy Governor Danforth, eighty-five acres of land with a dwelling-house (standing where Mr. Nathan Trowbridge's now does,) and out-buildings thereon, which he had occupied for some years; bounded with the highways west and south, the narrow lane north, his own land east, the dividing line being straight through the swamp. He was a Lieutenant, Clerk of the writs in 1691 and '3, and Representative in the General Court in 1700 and '3 He had five sons and nine daughters, and upwards of eighty grandchildren. His first wife died 17 June, 1672; second wife was Margaret, the daughter of Dea. John Jackson; she died 16 Sept. 1727, aged 78. He died 22 May, 1717, aged 81, leaving a will dated 1709.

Lieut. John Spring was born in England in 1630. He was the son of John and Elenor, and but four years old when he arrived in this country. His father settled in Watertown. John, jr., married Hannah, daughter of William and Anable

Barsham, of Watertown, in 1656. His house stood opposite the burying place, and near to that now owned and occupied by Mr. Colby. He was a Selectman eight years, and a Representative three years. He had one son and eight daughters, and a multitude of grandchildren. His wife died Aug. 18, 1710, aged 73; he died May 18, 1717, aged 87. He was evidently a very active and useful man among the first settlers of the Village. On his grave-stone he is styled Lieutenant. In 1688 he, with Edward Jackson, Abraham Jackson, and James Prentice, were a committee on the part of the Village to meet Old Cambridge, about the support of the great bridge.

NAMES OF SUBSCRIBERS,

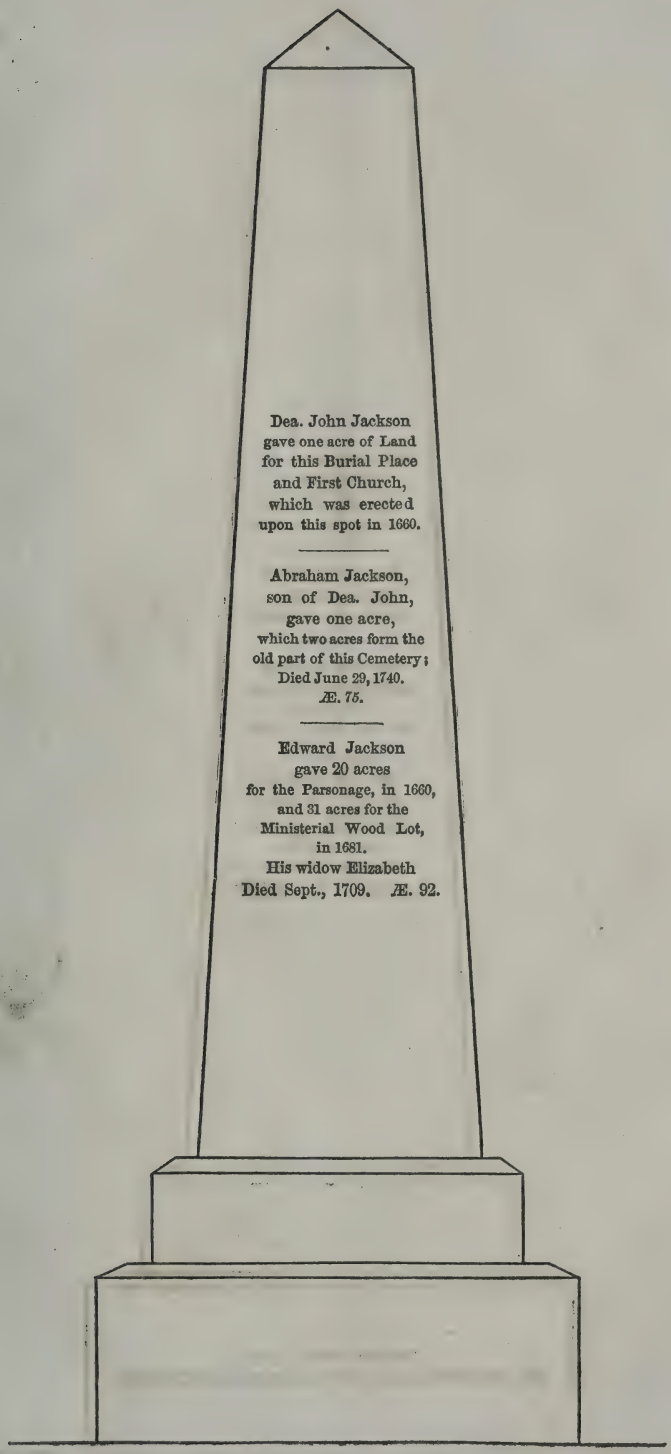
FOR THE ERECTION OF THE MONUMENT IN NEWTON.

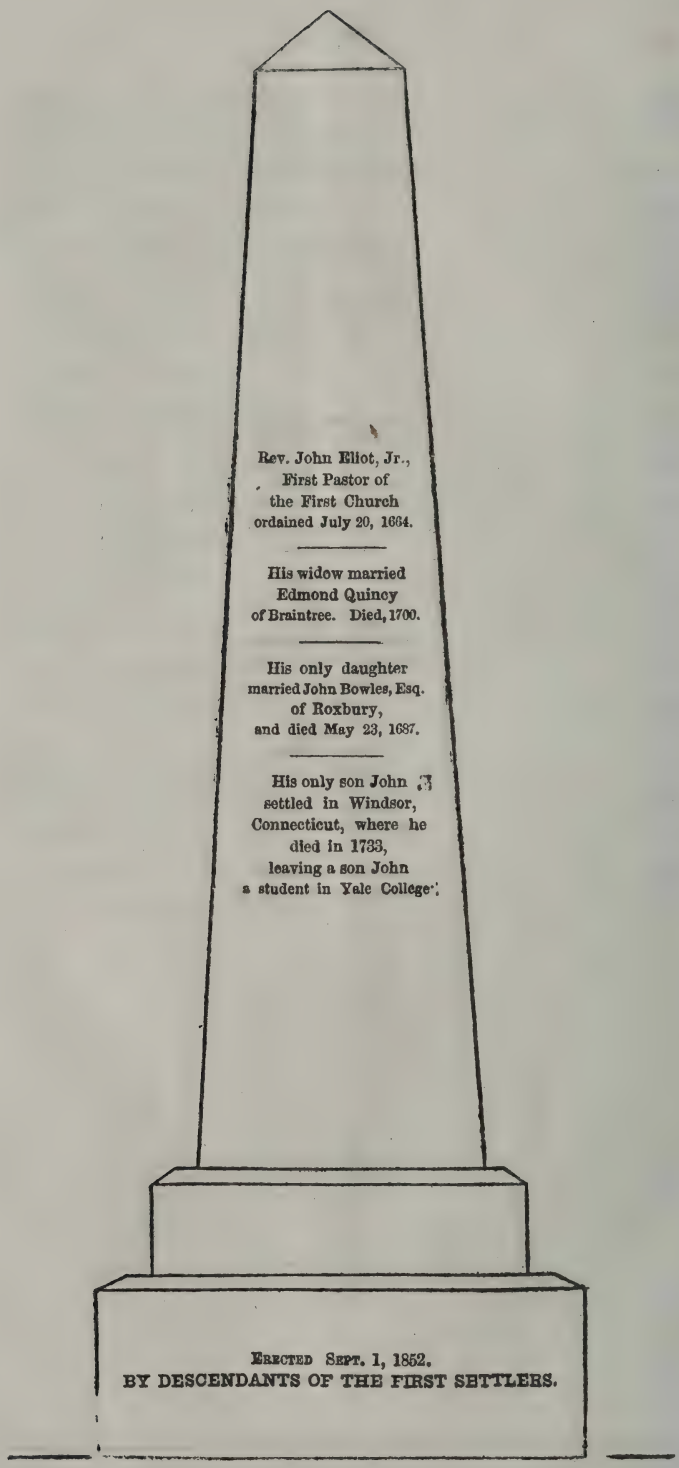
We, the undersigned, descendents of the first settlers of Newton, desirous of perpetuating the names and memory of those ancient worthies, agree to pay the sums herein set against our respective names, for the purpose of procuring a suitable monument, and placing the same upon the spot where they erected the first Newton church.

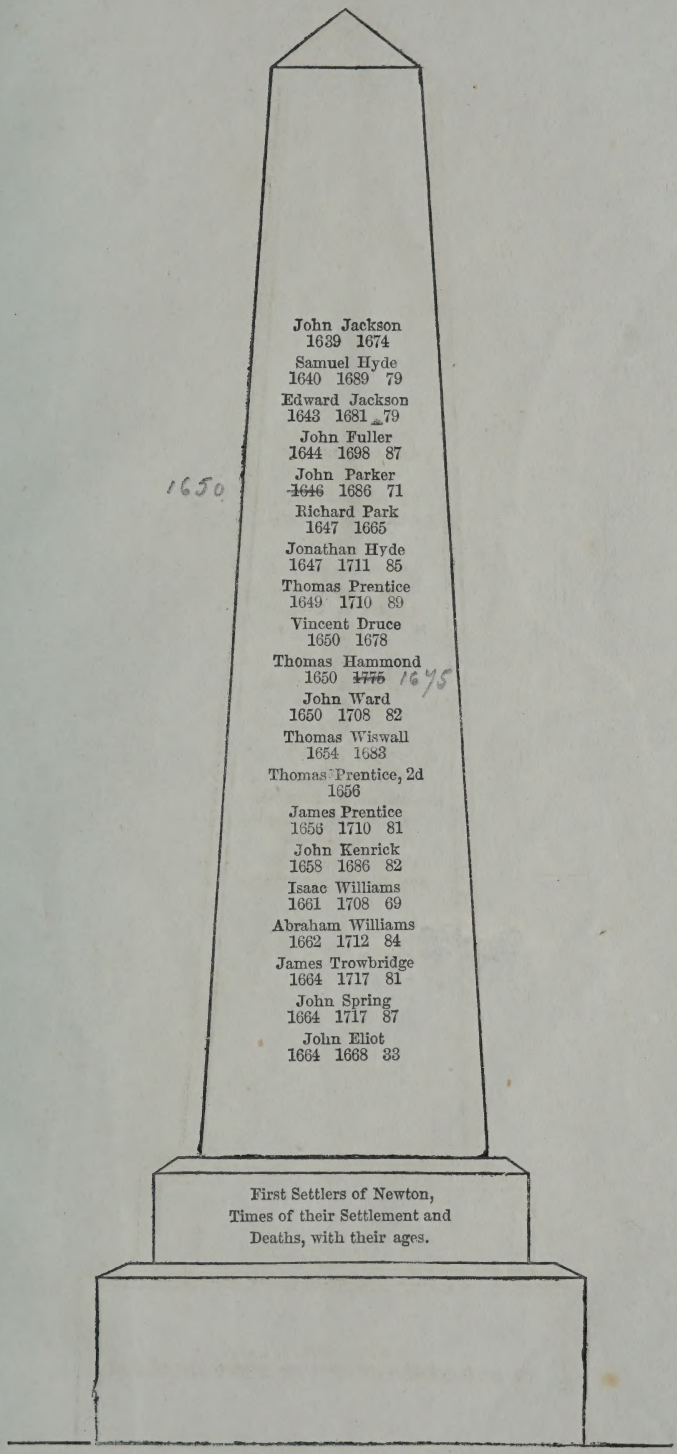
Said monument to be of such dimensions and cost, as the aggregate amount of our subscriptions may justify; and to have such inscriptions engraved thereon, as a majority of the Subscribers may approve.

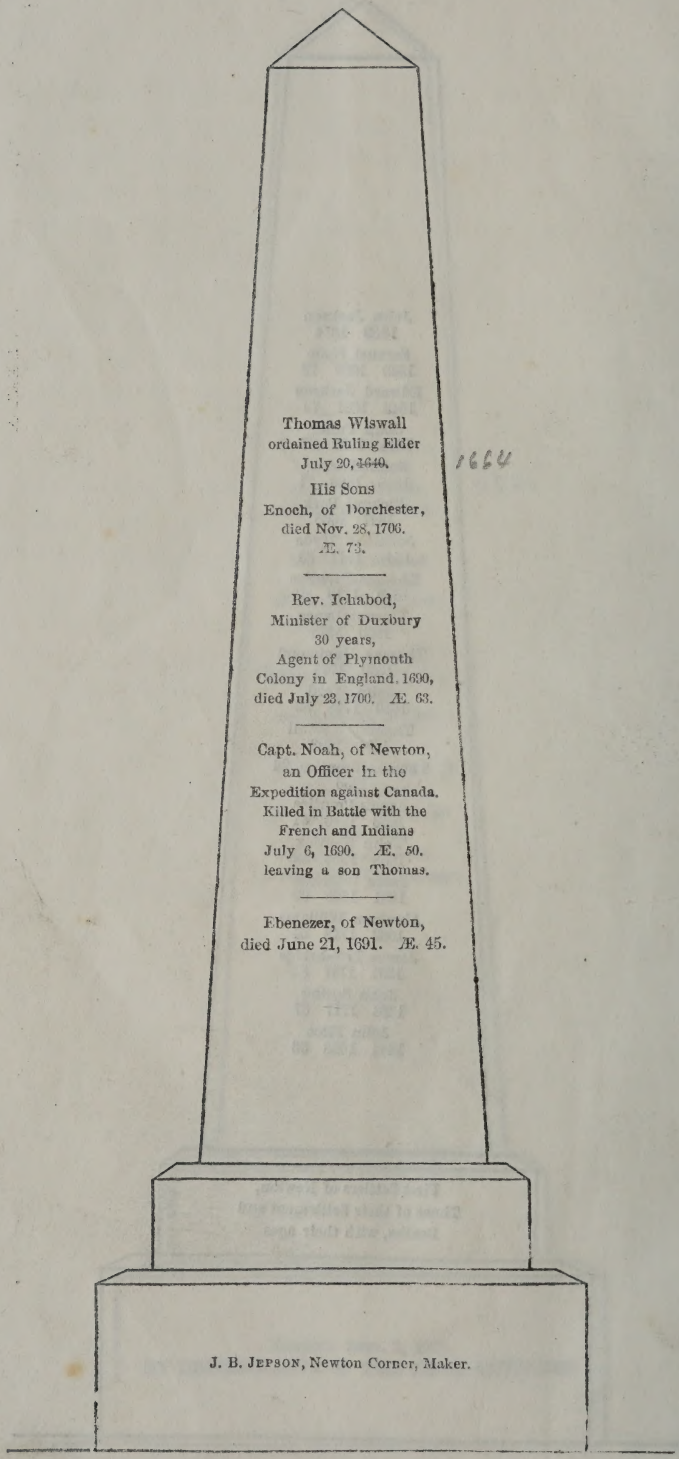
William Jackson, Newton,	$25,00
Francis Jackson, Boston,	25,00
Edmund Jackson, "	20,00
Elisha Wiswall, "	10,00
Sarah J. Davis, Newton	10,00
H Henry Fuller, "	10,00
Samuel Hyde, "	20,00
Ephraim Jackson, "	12,00
Henrietta Moor. "	5,00
Joseph N. Bacon, "	5,00
Charles Jackson, Boston,	20,00
James Jackson, "	5,00
Henry Lee, "	5,00
Timothy Jackson, Newton,	5,00
Almoran Trowbridge, Boston,	5,00
Stephen W. Trowbridge, Newton,	5,00
John Ward, Newton,	10,00

Ephraim Ward, Newton, - - - - - -	3,00
Reuben Trowbridge, Baltimore, - - -	20,00
James G. Fuller, Charlestown, Mass., - - -	10,00
John W. Parker, Roxbury, - - - -	2,00
Edward Hyde, Cambridgeport, - - - -	10,00
George Hyde, Newton, - - - - -	10,00
Hannah Jackson Collins, Newton, - - -	5,00
Edward Jackson Collins, " - - -	5,00
William Wiswall, " - - - -	3,00
William Wiswall, 2d, " - - -	4,00
Artemas Wiswall, " - - - -	3,00
Joseph Fuller, Framingham, - - -	2,00
Nathan Trowbridge, Newton, - - - -	5,00
Samuel Trowbridge, " - - - -	5,00
Otis Trowbridge, " - - - -	2,00
Ephraim Parker, " - - - -	2,00
William F. Ward, " - - - -	2,00
Robert Prentice, " - - - -	2,00
Phebe Jackson, " - - - -	5,00
James Hyde, " - - - -	5,00
Edward Jackson, Park's Bar, California, - -	5,00
William Kenrick, Newton, - - - -	3,00
John Kenrick, " - - - - -	3,00
Leonard Hyde, Roxbury, - - - -	10,00
Asa Trowbridge, Newton, - . - -	2,00


Dea. John Jackson
gave one acre of Land
for this Burial Place
and First Church,
which was erected
upon this spot in 1660.
Abraham Jackson,
son of Dea. John,
gave one acre,
which two acres form the
old part of this Cemetery;
Died June 29, 1740.
Æ. 75.
Edward Jackson
gave 20 acres
for the Parsonage, in 1660,
and 31 acres for the
Ministerial Wood Lot,
in 1681.
His widow Elizabeth
Died Sept., 1709. Æ. 92.


Rev. John Eliot, Jr.,
First Pastor of
the First Church
ordained July 20, 1664.
His widow married
Edmond Quincy
of Braintree. Died, 1700.
His only daughter
married John Bowles, Esq.
of Roxbury,
and died May 23, 1687.
His only son John
settled in Windsor,
Connecticut, where he
died in 1733,
leaving a son John
a student in Yale College.
Erected Sept. 1, 1852.
BY DESCENDANTS OF THE FIRST SETTLERS.


John Jackson
1639 1674
Samuel Hyde
1640 1689 79
Edward Jackson
1643 1681 79
John Fuller
1644 1698 87
1650
John Parker
~~1646~~ 1686 71
Richard Park
1647 1665
Jonathan Hyde
1647 1711 85
Thomas Prentice
1649 1710 89
Vincent Druce
1650 1678
Thomas Hammond
1650 ~~1776~~ 1645
John Ward
1650 1708 82
Thomas Wiswall
1654 1683
Thomas Prentice, 2d
1656
James Prentice
1656 1710 81
John Kenrick
1658 1686 82
Isaac Williams
1661 1708 69
Abraham Williams
1662 1712 84
James Trowbridge
1664 1717 81
John Spring
1664 1717 87
John Eliot
1664 1668 33
First Settlers of Newton,
Times of their Settlement and
Deaths, with their ages.


Thomas Wiswall
ordained Ruling Elder
July 20, 1649.
His Sons
Enoch, of Dorchester,
died Nov. 28, 1706.
Æ. 73.
Rev. Ichabod,
Minister of Duxbury
30 years,
Agent of Plymouth
Colony in England, 1690,
died July 23, 1700. Æ. 63.
Capt. Noah, of Newton,
an Officer in the
Expedition against Canada.
Killed in Battle with the
French and Indians
July 6, 1690. Æ. 50.
leaving a son Thomas.
Ebenezer, of Newton,
died June 21, 1691. Æ. 45.
J. B. JEPSON, Newton Corner, Maker.

1664